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JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION SINCE 1877

2018 MBC ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

1st Session | Tuesday Morning October 30, 2018

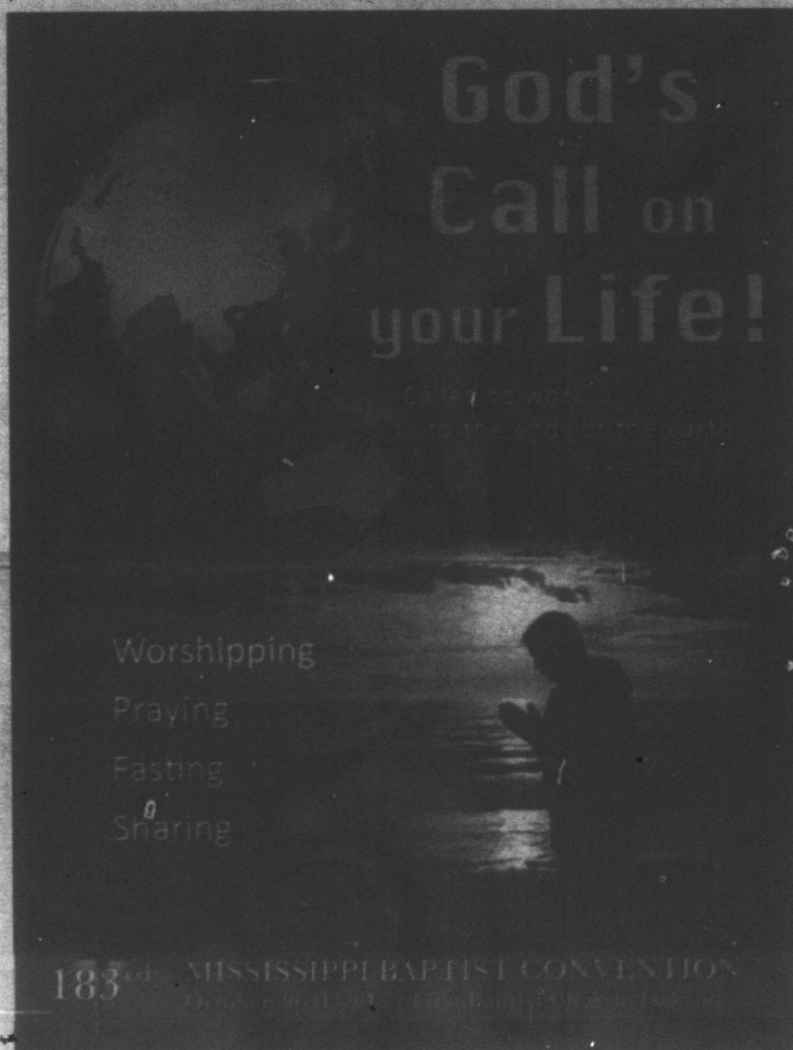
- 8:30 Call to Order
Invocation
Welcome
Organization of the Convention
Recognition and Seating of Messengers
Committee on Order of Business Report
Announcement of Credentials and
Tellers Committee
Presentations of Resolutions
8:45 .. Report of Committee on Committees
8:50 Convention Board Report
9:00 Southern Baptist Convention
Executive Committee
9:05 Business Session:
Election of the President
9:20 Mississippi Baptist Foundation
9:40 Worship through Music
9:50 Bible Treasures
10:15 Worship through Music
Scripture Reading
Testimony
10:40 Concert of Praise
11:00 President's Address
11:35 Benediction

2nd Session | Tuesday Afternoon October 30, 2018

- 1:30 Concert of Praise
1:45 Call to Order
Invocation
Business Session
Presentation of 2019 Budget
Cooperative Program Report
Stewardship & Cooperative Program
Promotion
Results of Election of President
Election of Convention Officers
Presentation of Resolutions
Miscellaneous Business
2:15 Missions Mobilization Celebration
2:25 Business Session
Election of Convention Officers
Miscellaneous Business
2:35 Vacation Bible School Celebration
2:45 Concert of Praise
3:00 Bible Treasures
3:25 Music Feature
3:30 Scripture Reading
Testimony
3:45 Congregational Praise
4:05 Convention Sermon
4:40 Benediction

3rd Session | Tuesday Evening October 30, 2018

- 6:30 Call to Order
Final Presentation of Resolutions
Invocation
Congregational Praise and Worship
Scripture Reading
Testimony



- 7:00 Choral Praise
7:10 Congregational Praise and Worship
7:15 Choral Praise
7:30 Message
8:10 Benediction

4th Session | Wednesday Morning October 31, 2018

- 8:30 Call to Order
Scripture Reading
Memorial Service
Invocation
8:50 Business Session
Adoption of 2019 Budget
Committee on Nominations Report
Resolutions Committee Report
Miscellaneous Business

- Time, Place, and Preacher
Committee Report
9:05 Introduction of College Presidents
9:10 Blue Mountain College Report
9:20 Recognition of Bivocational Pastor
of the Year
9:30 Collegiate Ministry Celebration
9:40 Congregational Praise
9:45 Bible Treasures
10:10 Congregational Praise
10:15 Testimony
10:35 Congregational Praise
10:50 Message
11:30 Closing Remarks
11:35 Benediction

Editor's note: For more detailed information,
visit www.mbc.org/convention.

Messenger cards

Messenger cards for the 183rd annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention on October 30-31, 2018, will be mailed directly to the churches the second week of October. Each church will receive the number of cards for which they are eligible according to the guidelines of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Constitution which states: "Each church in friendly cooperation with the Mississippi Baptist Convention and having contributed to world missions through the Cooperative Program during the preceding convention year shall be entitled to two messengers for the first one hundred members of its membership or fraction thereof. One additional messenger from each church shall be allowed for each additional one hundred members, or major fraction thereof, but no church shall be entitled to more than ten messengers." Membership information is based on the 2017 Annual Church Profile. Questions? Contact MSCB executive administration at (601) 292-3201 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 201. E-mail: mteel@mbcb.org.

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From the editor

WILLIAM PERKINS

Our political predicament

"The Swamp" doesn't even begin to describe the behavior going on these days in our national capital. There are other words and phrases that more accurately depict such infantile behavior but simply aren't suitable for a family newspaper like *The Baptist Record*.

Politics is and always has been blood sport based on the old adage, "You can't govern if you don't win." To the more sociopathic participants in our political process, that's permission to take whatever steps are necessary to propel themselves into public office. Some of those steps may ruin a person and his/her reputation and family, but that's justifiable if it leads to victory.

We've witnessed such conduct from city hall to the highest office in the country. Nothing is out of bounds these days. As election days approach, the nasty insinuations get nastier and the campaign budget for negative advertising goes through the roof.

An office seeker once derisively described his opponent as "a committed thespian, and proud of it." Innuendo like that is not even needed, though, when police reports and accusations arising in divorce actions can be splashed across our high-definition television screens and explained as a duty to expose the truth to the voting public (what a fraud).

Why do candidates — people who want to lead us — engage in such lowbrow behavior? Because it works, political analysts tell us. While we may feign disgust at the supermarket checkout when our eyes fall on the lurid headlines of *National Enquirer*, the analysts contend that we are drawn in by equally inappropriate misuse of information in print and television political advertisements/assassinations.

Brace yourselves for the ads that are being put together right now for the last days of the mid-term election we have coming up this November. Given the unusual nature of some of the Mississippi elections (both U.S. Senate seats, retirement, etc.), it's going to get mighty dirty in the state's political realm.

Politicians' bad behavior does not justify bad behavior on the part

of Christians. Politicians may treat our minds and our country as cesspools, but Jesus' followers should not stoop to the same low level of conduct. It's very easy for a backyard political discussion among family, friends, and neighbors to rather quickly devolve into a bitter, no win situation for everyone involved that can go on for years without resolution — even after the disputed officeholder has stepped down or passed away.

If we want American politics to rise above such conduct, thanks to the Founding Fathers we are the ones who can change it. We live in a democratic republic, which means if we want change we have to do it ourselves. We have to start with a good, long look in the mirror. With what impression are we leaving people when we talk politics? As we should be committed to doing in every other facet of our lives, are we a reflection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ when it comes to politics? What would Jesus do?

Given the current state of politics in our country, it certainly seems that a careful study of Jesus' teachings in that area are in order (remember "Render unto Caesar...?"). To what better source can we resort for that information than the Bible? To what better source can we resort for how to live any phase of our lives?

One obvious way we can affect the political discourse is to vote when we have the opportunity to do so. Just think for a moment about the people around the world who do not have the privilege to govern themselves through the ballot box, and yearn to do so. Just think about the people around the world who are crushed daily by totalitarian dictators who do not afford them the basic human rights we take so much for granted.

Some political observers believe the evangelical voters who sat out the last national election numbered in the high tens of millions. Can you imagine the differences in outcomes those may votes could have made in so many of the races for office in that election — in any election?

Let's start taking our right to vote seriously. If we don't, then the swamp creatures will continue to thrive in their natural habitat.

Stay where you are

While preaching one Sunday at a National Baptist church, someone mentioned to me that Franklin Avenue was looking for a pastor and asked if I would be interested. I said, "Franklin Avenue is a white church, blacks do not go there!" That's when I was told about the transitioning neighborhood and how Franklin Avenue was now an African American congregation.

After meeting with the pulpit committee several times, I was then scheduled to teach a church-wide Sunday School and preach for the 11 a.m. worship service. Later that evening, I got a call from the pulpit committee chair to inform me that I had been elected as the mission's pastor.

Upon becoming the pastor, I was committed to ask for help in all areas I thought could assist us as a church and me as a pastor. That's when I was first introduced to the many benefits of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

I met on a biweekly basis with leaders from our local association and then was introduced to professors, staff, and facilities at New Orleans Seminary. Our association trained our Sunday School teachers and ministry leaders while our seminary provided the space we needed for outreach events. Because of our growth, within three years we were able to become an autonomous church.

While brainstorming with our church leaders, one of our older members asked a question I did not expect. The question was: Since we are now an autonomous church, why don't we get out of the SBC?

I was floored by the question and asked, "Why?" I was once again floored when I was told about the history of the SBC. I never knew that the convention I was now a part of started as a result of slavery.

After a brief history lesson and intense discussion, I made a statement that I knew came from God. I looked each of those members in their eyes and said, "All of us have a past. All of us have done something in our past that we regret. However, there is nothing we can do about our past, but we can do a whole lot about our future."

With that said, I then stated a number of reasons why I felt it would be in



Guest opinion with Fred Luter

our best interest to not get out of the SBC:

■ Southern Baptists allowed us to worship in the building we were in at no cost.

■ The SBC, through our local association, provided training for our ministry leaders without cost.

■ The SBC, through New Orleans Seminary, allowed us to use the gym and other buildings for outreach events.

■ The SBC stands on the infallibility of the Word of God.

■ The SBC does missions, both local and international, better than any other group in the nation.

■ The SBC is a key leader in disaster relief nationwide.

■ The SBC believes in the importance of evangelism, discipleship, and planting churches.

■ The SBC is the most racially diverse convention in the nation.

I then stated, "The SBC is not a perfect convention by any means, but I truly believe that the SBC exists to do the will of God on this earth. So let's stay with this convention and help to carry out the Great Commission and the Great Commandment of our Lord Jesus Christ." I then asked for a vote and the vote was unanimous to stay in the SBC.

Looking back on that night, without a doubt deciding not to "ditch our denomination" was one of the best decisions we have ever made as a church.

Luter is pastor of Franklin Avenue Church in New Orleans and a former two-term president of the SBC. His commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press. Edited for style and length.

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New crop of IMB missionaries commissioned

RICHMOND, Va. (BP and local reports) — Southern Baptists celebrated the sending of 66 new international missionaries Sept. 26 at Grove Avenue Church in Richmond, Va.

The new missionaries shared how God has woven throughout their lives a desire to take His Gospel to people who have never heard — and each story evidenced God's role for every church to take His Good News to every nation.

"The Lord has always moved my life through stories," said Caroline Reel, who is being sent by her churches, Restoration Church in Wake Forest, N.C., and Bullard Chapel Church in Tishomingo, Ok., to serve among refugee peoples in Uganda.

"From the missionaries' stories at [Girls in Action] camps when I was a little girl, to storying through the Bible on mission as part of my education, stories have connected me to God's plan to share His life-giving story with the nations."

Missionary appointees with Mississippi Baptist connections include:

■ Edward and Kathleen Hill. Sending church: Northcrest Church, Meridian. Affinity: Sub-Saharan African peoples.

■ Heidi Toledo (not her real name). Sending church: Unidentified for security reasons. Affinity: Southeast Asian peoples.

■ Matt & Jayna Seidel (not their real names). Sending church: Unidentified for security reasons. Affinity: Central Asian peoples.

Among others commissioned by the International Mission Board on Sept. 26:

■ Years ago as a young couple in Ecuador, Patrick and Victoria Regalado learned of the great need for Hispanic pastors in the United States. In 1988, they arrived in New York City to reach Latinos for Christ.

"The last 10 years we have traveled to the Americas and around the United States equipping church leaders," Patrick said. Now the couple feels that

God is leading them to Latin America to equip pastors and leaders. They are being sent by Judson Church in Nashville.

■ God used the 2015 refugee crisis to move missions from "a good idea" to God's priority in the lives of Stephen and Amy Morgan, who are sent by Lakeshore Church in New Orleans to European peoples.

"We aren't special," Amy said. "We feel God's hand has been in our education and experiences directing us toward missional service."

■ The path to missions service started eight years ago for Stephen and Kimberly Park, sent by Saddleback Valley Community Church in California, with a simple prayer: "God use us to do whatever it takes to reach one more for Jesus." The Parks will share God's love in Spain.

■ God saved Jeff Johnson (not his real name) around the time of the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, and gave him a passion to share the Gospel, with a special burden to share with Muslims.

■ Sophia Johnson (not her real name) heard the Gospel from a missionary while growing up in a Roman Catholic home in Oaxaca, Mexico. On her first mission trip to Cuba in 1998, God called her to take the Gospel to the nations. She and her husband are being sent to the people of North Africa and the Middle East.

■ As a refugee in the Philippines, Ruby Ng (not her real name) felt the love of many missionaries. She thanked God for adding her to that number as Ruby and her husband Peter (not his real name) will share the Gospel with the 400,000 Vietnamese living throughout Taiwan.

Outgoing International Mission Board president David Platt offered four exhortations from the Book of Daniel to the new personnel as they head out into the world with the Good News of God's love.

Reading from the passage, he gave the first exhortation: "May your only offense be obedience to God's Word." In the story, Platt



TO THE FIELD — Southern Baptists show their support for 66 new missionaries during a Sending Celebration at Grove Avenue Church in Richmond, Va. The new appointees will share the Gospel from South America to East Asia, from Sub-Saharan Africa to Central Asia, from South Asia to Europe — and beyond. (BP photo courtesy of IMB)

said, other people were opposed to God's law but they knew Daniel would be obedient to God's law, no matter what it cost him.

"Real holiness is risking your life for the spread of God's Kingdom," Platt said. "Offend people with obedience to God's Word. Remove obstacles to the Gospel, but don't remove the offense of the Gospel."

Secondly, Platt exhorted: "May your deepest joy be found and your greatest work be done daily on your knees." When told not to pray to anyone but the king, Daniel decides, "You can take my life, but you can't take my time with the Lord," Platt recounted. "Live like that. ... God, give us this kind of prayer."

"Prayer is more precious to him than life," Platt added. "Is prayer more precious to you than life?"

Platt gave his third exhortation: "May your constant protection be the presence of God."

He told how Daniel was tossed into the lion's den for in-

sisting on praying to God, and God delivered him. Daniel testified to God's protection, saying, "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him" (Daniel 6:22).

"The same God who sent His angels to shut the mouths of lions is the same God who is leading you and is with you every step of your journey — the same God," Platt said. "May your constant protection be the presence of God. ... Here's the greatest news: Even if none of us was here, you would not be alone. You have nothing to fear, for He is with you."

Finally, Platt exhorted: "May your life cause nations to give glory to God. In a world of many gods and many kings, tell the world there is one God of gods and one King of kings. This is the point of the story. God designs our lives for the display of His glory."

"God loves you for the sake of His glory among the nations,"

Platt said. "His love is not intended to center on us, it is intended to spread through us. If we would just get that, it would change our posture in Christianity today."

During the missionary testimonies, Rose Sharkey (not her real name), who is being sent with her husband Alvin (not his real name), stated, "Revelation 4:11 says, 'Worthy are you, our Lord, to receive glory, honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they exist and were created.' God is worthy to receive glory 'by the proclamation of His name among His creation who do not know Him,' Alvin said.

The Sharkeys are going to share God's glory among Buddhist peoples of South Asia. Like all IMB missionaries, they are supported by Southern Baptists' gifts through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

The next IMB Sending Celebration will be Nov. 14, in Richmond.

Johnny Hunt co-pastor chosen for leadership transition

WOODSTOCK, Ga. (BP and local reports) — Members of First Church in Woodstock, Ga., the 24th largest church in the 47,000-church Southern Baptist Convention, voted overwhelmingly on Sept. 16 for Atlanta-area pastor Jeremy Morton to serve alongside Johnny Hunt as co-pastor while the church moves forward with a leadership transition.

Hunt, former two-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention, announced in late August that he will be joining the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist



MORTON



HUNT

Convention in Alpharetta, Ga., as senior vice president of evangelism and leadership.

He is a popular speaker with Mississippi Baptists, traveling to the state several times in recent years for seminars and lectures.

Morton, age 37, is senior pastor of First Church in Cartersville, Ga. He preached in both Sunday morning services at First Church, Woodstock on Sept. 16 in view of a call to serve alongside Hunt.

"Jeremy will ultimately become the senior pastor, but not until he and Pastor Johnny feel the timing is best for the church," according to a First Church, Woodstock news release.

"Since I was a teen pastor Johnny Hunt has been one of my heroes," Morton told The Christian Index newspaper of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

"Now, to work at his side as co-pastor is an honor more meaningful than I can describe."

Hunt commented that in praying through the time of transition at First Church, Woodstock, "I asked the Lord to show me His man. I feel that Jeremy fits every quality I felt needed to lead FBCW to its best days. He's a great family man, a great Bible preacher, a personal soul-winner, and tremendous at building relationships with God's people."

"I'm elated that he will pastor my children, grandchildren, and my wife Janet and me," Hunt, said.

Morton, a native of Warner Robins, Ga., has led First Church, Cartersville, Ga., the past five years, previously serving 13 years as the founding pastor/church planter of Cross Point Church in the central Georgia town of Perry.

A graduate of Brewton-Parker College in Mt. Vernon, Ga., and New Orleans Seminary, Morton is currently working on his doctor of ministry degree in expository preaching through Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth.

He and his wife Carrie have three children: Zeke, Madie, and Abe.

Probably many of you heard about and maybe even saw the guy on the Fourth of July eat all those hotdogs. The man's name is Joey "Jaws" Chestnut. He was eating hotdogs in the eating contest and for the 11th time he was the champion. Only this time, he set a new record. If you didn't see this, don't go back and look it up and watch it because it's not... take my word for it, it's not worth sitting through 10 minutes to watch him eat 74 hotdogs plus the buns. Can you imagine?

I grew up as a kid oftentimes saying at a meal or at the close of a meal, "I'm stuffed!" or occasionally I would say something like, "I'm full as a tick." Country folks — we knew what that meant. As I got older, I was impressed by some folks wanting to upgrade my social niceties and they said, "You shouldn't say, 'I'm stuffed.'" I remember asking a fella one time, "Well, if I'm not to say that, what's the best thing to say?" He told me to reply, "Thank you, but I have eaten sufficiently."

I've never forgotten what he told me, but I don't ever remember using it either. There have been many times when I have eaten sufficiently. I cannot imagine eating 74 hotdogs and buns in a 10-minute span. In fact, I am not sure I've eaten that many hotdogs in buns in my entire life — all of them combined, not all my lives but all of my hotdogs combined. Joey Chestnut is the king of stuffing himself. He has overstuffing himself beyond any of the competitors for 11 times.

I'm not sure how this got started but there are all kinds of eating events. How many hamburgers, chicken wings, tacos, or marshmallows can be eaten in a set period of time? Like Joey Chestnut, some folks make a living out of it. In a world where we all may eat sufficiently, we also recognize that we don't need to



Stuffed

be eating as much as we eat most of the time. As a result, especially here in America, it seems as though 99% of the population either wants to or needs to be on some kind of weight reduction program because we get stuffed too much, too often.

I'm confident the writer of Hebrews never heard of Joey Chestnut. I don't think they had any kind of eating contest back in those days, but there's an interesting passage of Scripture where the Hebrew writer is telling us we need to get our bodies in gear and active, using them efficiently and proficiently. Apparently some of the believers, if not many of them, had gotten to where they ate and ate sufficiently but were not putting the calories or their bodies or their spiritual lives in action and so they were becoming folks who sat, not involved, not active, not participating, not using the gifts, abilities, and opportunities God gave them. As a consequence, they became weaker and weaker to the point, apparently, that they were just taking in food and calories but not able to do anything.

In Hebrews 12:12 the writer addresses this. Hey, we need to get up and get involved and get active and strengthen our bodies. You can read the passage and understand he's talking about spiritually. We need to get what we are taking in involved in what we are extending outwardly. The NIV says it like this, "Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 'Make level paths for your feet,' so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed. Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:12-14). When you read that and pause and see it in its context you begin to understand that oftentimes we become people who just eat, absorb, want more to eat, and rarely put into action the calories and energy that we are taking in.

I have known a few folks through the years who just loved to take in more of the milk of the Word than the meat of the Word. They would travel a long way to get to a conference to sit and eat some more of the good things of God. Give me some of the

bread. Give me some of the honey of the things of God, and almost without knowing it, they were putting on more and more weight and expending less and less of the calories to serve, to help, to love, to care. They had not recognized that in trying to take in more to have spiritual strength, they were become weaker because there was no exercise of what they got. The things they were receiving had not been put into exercises that would care for the things of God.

It's a strange thing, isn't it, but it's so easy for us to do. We enjoy hearing of the things of God. It can be inspirational. It can be encouraging. It can be instructive, but what if we never get around to getting up, lifting up our arms, putting our hands in action, or as the writer of Hebrews says, "Strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees" (Hebrews 12:12)? Spend some time putting them into service. Physically, all of us can relate to this. Spiritually, sometimes we miss out. Let me give you some thoughts and I'll be through.

The first thought is the writer of Hebrews is telling us, **you know...now show**. A second thing he tells us is **you were full...now share**. A third thing that seems to be implied is **you want more...for what?** What will you do if God gives you more insight, more inspiration, more food to ingest, more goodness from heaven flows into your life, for what? God wants to bless us, but He wants to bless us to be a blessing. We can either sit on the sidelines weak and unable to participate, or we can get up and strengthen our hands and our arms, our legs and our feet; everything about us to touch the lives of others, and to that end, the Lord wants to use each of us.

The author can be contacted at directions@mbcb.org.

Hotel/Motel Rates for Convention

Hotel/Motel Rates effective October 28-31, 2018. Note: Cutoff date for the rates listed is October 15, 2018. Rates will go up after this date. (One hotel has a different cutoff date—see below.) When you ask for reservations be sure to tell them you are attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Cabot Lodge-Millsaps

(601) 948-8650

\$94.00 Single/Double per night + tax
2375 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39202
Free Hot Breakfast

Cabot Lodge-Ridgeland

(601) 957-0757

\$94.00 Single/Double per night + tax
120 Dyess Road
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Free Hot Breakfast

Country Inn & Suites

(601) 420-2244

\$79.00 Single/Double per night + tax
3051 White Blvd.
Pearl, MS 39208
Free Hot Breakfast

Drury Inn & Suites

(601) 956-6100

\$99.99/\$104.99 Queens/King per night + tax
610 East County Line Road
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Please refer to Group #2350273
Free Hot Breakfast

Hilton Garden Inn

(601) 487-0800

\$139.00 Single/Double per night + tax
118 Laurel Park Cove
Flowood, MS 39232
Breakfast - varied price from menu

Holiday Inn

(601) 939-5238

\$119.99 Single/Double per night + tax
110 Bass Pro Drive
Pearl, MS 39208
Breakfast - varied price from menu

Holiday Inn Express

(601) 948-4466

\$98.00 Single/Double per night + tax
310 Greymont Street
Jackson, MS 39202
Free Hot Breakfast

Old Capitol Inn

(601) 359-9000

\$135.00 Single/Double per night + tax
226 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39201
Free Hot Breakfast

The Westin

(800) 937-8461

\$139.00 Single/Double per night + tax + parking
407 South Congress Street
Jackson, MS 39201
* Cut off for reservations was 9/28/18
Breakfast - Varied price

Preschool Care for Convention

Preschool care will be available for children by pre-registration, ages birth through five, at First Church, Jackson, during the Pastors' Conference and the Mississippi Baptist Convention, October 29, noon - October 31, 2018. To pre-register, contact Bonnie Snellgrove, childcare coordinator, at (601) 949-1997, or Bsnellgrove@fbcj.org. All children must be pre-registered by Monday, October 22, 2018. Details of where childcare will be located will be e-mailed to all parents before the start of convention. Following are the procedures upon arrival:

1. Pre-register, giving name and age of each child, the parent, and the church.
2. Pick up a security card for each child on arrival.
3. Be sure all belongings are labeled.
4. For infants, leave a time schedule for feeding.
5. Leave the children no earlier than 15 minutes before the beginning of a session and pick them up no later than 15 minutes after the close of the session.

Children may remain in the preschool area during the Convention lunch break on Tuesday if parents provide a sack lunch.



When most Baptists think about the Christian Action Commission (CAC), they think about moral, social, and legal issues affected by our elected officials. I very much enjoy my work "across the street." I wonder how many times during my two regular sessions and two (yes, two) special sessions of our Legislature that I have walked "across the street." Our Baptist Building is diagonal across the street from the Capitol. We are the southeast corner of State Street and Mississippi Street, and the Capitol is the northwest corner.

I try to be available to our elected officials in the Capitol. With name tag on my left lapel, I walk the halls, stand in and around the rotunda, sit in the hearing rooms, and most of all, look down from the gallery on the Senate and the House.

We try to build relationships with your senators and representatives. We

try to earn equity with these men and women. We don't always agree, but we try to interact, not react, with them in a constructive way. Though we lost the battle of the lottery, we have not lost the war. I believe the credibility of the CAC grew during our 2-year struggle with the lottery. We live to fight another day. I enjoy my work 'ACROSS the street.'

But, the majority of my time as the Executive Director of the CAC is spent "across the state." What a privilege for me to preach and teach in the churches, the associations, the schools, and the Baptist Student Unions across the

state. What a joy to "rightly divide" the WORD.

Whether at a Lamplighter conference, or a revival, or a youth camp, or Bible study, or doing supply, I can help educate and equip our Mississippi Baptists on the ethical application of a Biblical World View. Orthodoxy affects Orthopraxy. Convictions affect conduct. Beliefs affect behavior. Attitudes affect actions. Doctrine affects decisions. What is down in the well will come up in the bucket. "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he," Proverbs 23:7.

As I work hard to be available across the street, I want to be available

across the state. My middle name is still "available."

At the heart of the work of the CAC across the street and across the state is "a cross." "On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross." We do what we do because of "a cross." "At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light." The priority of our ministry at the CAC is "a cross." "Jesus, keep me near the cross." As Director of the CAC, I am so blessed to join with Dr. Futral in calling our state to revival and calling sinners to repentance. Across the street and across the state, we call everyone to a cross — THE CROSS of Christ.

Digby is executive director-treasurer of the Christian Action Commission. He can be reached at (601) 292-3329/office, (662) 284-9163/cell, or by e-mail at kdigby@christianaction.com.

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College News



A prominent business leader for decades, Robert H. V., president of Watson Quality Ford in Jackson will receive **MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE'S** Award of Excellence at the university's 2018 Homecoming. He will receive an honorary Doctor of Business Administration as a tribute to his distinguished service. Activities include an October 26 awards banquet at Anderson Hall. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. that Friday evening on the Clinton campus. Watson also will ride along College Street with others in the Blue & Gold family at the Homecoming parade on Saturday October 27.

BIBL iO C i P H E R

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OYCOGUPRG SUJO: GUL

Clue: L = X

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Hebrews 4:1

By Charles Marx, 1932-2004, © 2005

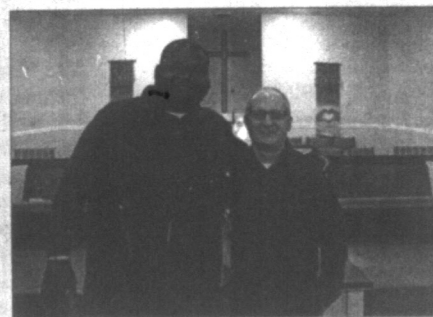
Congressman Gregg Harper will receive the Order of the Golden Arrow Award at **MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE'S** 2018 Homecoming. The 1978 Mississippi College graduate will be honored at a 6 p.m. awards dinner on the Clinton campus on October 26. The Order of the Golden Arrow Award recognizes individuals for their outstanding personal achievements during their careers. Tickets to the awards dinner at Anderson Hall cost \$25. For more information on MC's 2018 Homecoming on October 26-27, contact Lori Bobo of the Alumni Affairs Office at (601) 925-3252 or lbobo@mc.edu.



Staff Changes



ARLINGTON CHURCH, BOGUE CHITTO, has called Stephen Slump as pastor. Pictured are wife Jennifer and children Joseph, Hannah, and Matthew.



GRACE CHURCH, MT. PLEASANT, has called Tra'Shawn Standifer (left), a Blue Mountain College student, as minister of youth. Paul Betts (right) is pastor.

Revivals & Homecomings

► **New Hope Church, Foxworth:** Homecoming, Oct. 7; special music and covered dish lunch; Billy Williams, speaker.

► **Amaziah Church, Union County:** 175th anniversary, Oct. 7; service, 10 a.m., followed by a fellowship meal; Lovelace Family, music; Andrew Chesteen, speaker.

► **Macedonia Church, Calhoun City:** 175th anniversary, Oct. 7; service, 10 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon special music; Jim Futral, speaker; Ken Strickland, music; Bratton family, special music; Dwight Brown, pastor.

► **Shady Grove Church, Lucedale:** Revival, Oct. 7-10; Sun., 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; James Messer, speaker; Dean Belton, music.

► **Spring Hill Church, Waterford:** Homecoming, Oct. 14; singing by Roy Wilson Family, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship meal; Bobby McKay, speaker; John Parker, pastor.

► **Clear Branch Church, Florence:** Homecoming, Oct. 14; worship service 10 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds; Tim McCaffrey, speaker.

► **New Henleyfield Church, Carriere:** Revival, Oct. 14-17; Sun., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Bud Putnam, speaker; Brad Replogle, music.

► **Troy Church, Pontotoc:** Revival, Oct. 7-11, 7 p.m.; Mark Howard, speaker; Randy Spencer, pastor.

► **Beulah Memorial Church, Brownsville:** 200th Anniversary, Oct. 14 at 10 a.m. Lunch will be served following service.

► **Providence Church, Hattiesburg:** 200th Anniversary, Oct. 6-7; Sat., 5 p.m. with music fellowship and meal to follow; Sun., worship service 10:30 a.m. followed by catered meal. Britt Williamson, speaker.

► **Little Bahala Church, Wesson:** 200th Anniversary, Nov. 10-11; Sat., 10 a.m., church cemetery for Veterans Day and Descendants celebration; Sun., 10 a.m. for 200th celebration followed by dinner.

► **Mt. Carmel Church, Edinburg:** Homecoming, Oct. 14. Worship service, 11 a.m. Jason Price, speaker.

Just for the Record



The Circle of Prayer WMU from **FOXWORTH CHURCH, MARION COUNTY**, recently delivered You Are Loved bracelets for the clients at the Center for Pregnancy of Lawrence County. Shown are Brittany & Jessica Chavis, Angela Armstrong and Cherie Norton. Tyler Chavis, pastor.



UNION CHURCH, TYBERTOWN, recently held a GA recognition. Deborah Varnado and Hollie McKenzie, leaders.



FIRST CHURCH, KOSCIUSKO, ordained Brady Richardson and Gary Wallace as deacons Sept. 9. Also shown are Nicki Richardson and Kai and Katie Wallace and Liza.



FIRST CHURCH, MORTON, ordained Timmy Jolly to the Gospel ministry and Jimmy Perritt as deacon. Shown are Jolly, Cynthia Jolly, Frances Perritt, Perritt, and pastor Marty Wilson.

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Just for the Record



HEBRON CHURCH, BENTONIA, ordained two new deacons to their deacon body Sept. 16. Shown are Marty Hilderbrand, pastor Scott Sones, and Derrin Green.

In other Church News:

► Life of Christ annual presentation will be held Dec. 8 from 5-8 p.m. at Atwood Water Park in Monticello. The drive-by presentation will include scenes from the life of Christ and a narrative CD. Admission is free.



EAST COLUMBIA CHURCH, COLUMBIA, welcomed Tammy Anderson, MBCB WMU consultant (far right) as speaker at its churchwide annual Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering Emphasis recently. Also shown are WMU Women on Mission and pastor Tim Morrison.



BEULAH CHURCH, DECATUR, presented a plaque to Barbara J. Harrison in appreciation for her service for 30 years as pianist at Beulah. Shown are Harrison and Luke Howell, music minister. Gary Rivers, pastor.



SPRINGFIELD CHURCH, SCOTT ASSOCIATION, acknowledged Homer Willingham for his service on the deacon board and for 18 years of service as Sunday School director. Shown are interim pastor Ken McLemore and Willingham.

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Branson Blanton and Megan Vanover were honored with a reception at **GILLSBURG CHURCH, GILLSBURG**, in recognition of their year's service leading the music program.



ARBOR GROVE CHURCH, HOUSTON, recently ordained Will Livingston to the Gospel ministry. Shown are Ronald Meeks, Livingston, Laura Livingston, and pastor Jason Brassfield.



FIRST CHURCH, WINONA, held a parent/baby dedication on Father's Day. Shown are: Ryan, Maggie, & John Sadler Taylor; Michael, Amanda, & Luke Hutton Pegg; James, Heather, James Sawyer, Demi, & Aubrey Mims; Nick, Erin, & Madilynn Jo Estrada; Regan, Kyle and Kathryn Bell Cravens and Pastor Jay Anderson.

OBITUARIES

James Elmer Calder, 79, longtime Mississippi Baptist pastor, died August 25 at his residence in Coffeeville. He was born July 21, 1939, in Tallahatchie County to Alex and Hattie Mae Liles Calder. He surrendered to the ministry in 1964 and served as pastor of Sherman Church in Calhoun County for over 38 years. Calder was a U.S. Army Veteran. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Mary Ann Liles Calder; daughters Carol Halderman (Johnny), Linda Caldwell (Jerry), and Kaye Orton, all of Coffeeville; and Connie Brinson (Greg) of Brookhaven; nine grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Charlie and Glen Calder. Funeral service was held August 28 at Calvary Church near Coffeeville with interment in the church cemetery. McKibben and Guinn Funeral Service in Grenada was in charge of arrangements.

Larry Lee Futral, 76, longtime Mississippi Baptist minister of music, died Aug. 25 at his home in Hattiesburg after a battle with cancer. He was born January 19, 1942, in Fort Smith, Ar., to Guy and Mary Sue Futral. Futral graduated from Mississippi State University in Starkville with a degree in history and social studies, and from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth with master of church music and master of religious education degrees. He began his career as a teacher and served four years in the U.S. Air Force. Futral spent 50 years in music ministry at churches in Mississippi, Texas, and Alabama. Following 23 years of full-time service at First Church, Ocean Springs, he served more than 10 additional years in a part-time position at Calvary Church, West Point. Futral is survived by his wife of 55 years, Rita; sons Steve of West Point and Greg (Judy) of Hattiesburg; daughter Meredith of Pendleton, S.C.; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brothers Guy (Nancy) of Brandon, FL; Jim (Shirley) of Ridgeland; Tom (Margaret) of Houston; and Randy (Olivia) of Hickory Flat; and honorary daughter Wendy Wells of Byron Center, MI. He was preceded in death by his parents. A Celebration of Life and memorial services were held Sept. 1 at Calvary Church, Hattiesburg. Moore Funeral Service of Hattiesburg was in charge of arrangements.



FUTRAL

A. J. "Jack" Glaze Jr., 94, of Clinton, longtime Southern Baptist missionary and Christian educator, died Sept. 4 at the VA Nursing Home in Kosciusko, MS. Born in D'Lo on January 17, 1924, Glaze was the son of the late A. J. Glaze and Mabel Pickering Glaze of Pelahatchie. Glaze was a student at Millsaps College in Jackson when World War II began. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Northern Africa and Western Europe as a chaplain's assistant. After the war he completed his undergraduate work at Mississippi College in Clinton and began graduate studies at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., where he also later completed his Ph.D. studies. Glaze and his late wife Jean served with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board (now the International Mission Board) from 1953-80 in Argentina. He was a professor of Old Testament and president (1967-75) of the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires. A Hebrew scholar and biblical expositor, Glaze was the author of the volume entitled, *Jonah, In The Broadman Bible Commentary* and also other English and Spanish language commentaries and articles. While on furloughs from assignment in Argentina, Glaze served as guest professor at Southern Seminary and Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. Upon his return to the United States, Glaze served as professor and chairman of the Department of Religion at Mississippi College (1980-85)



GLAZE

and later as the Chester L. Quarles Professor of Missions at New Orleans Seminary (1985-93). He was instrumental in starting several Hispanic churches. Following his retirement, Glaze continued to share his passion for the Bible teaching Seminary Extension courses in churches and numerous informal Bible studies at his home. He was preceded in death by his wife Jean Johnson Glaze of Greenwood, S.C., and sister Margaret Glaze Ross of Pelahatchie. He is survived by his children David Glaze (Gloria) of Brandon; Steve Glaze (Ruth) of Lynchburg, Va.; Deb Wells (Keith) of Philadelphia; and Tim Glaze (Laurie) of Hattiesburg; twelve grandchildren; and 22 great grandchildren. Funeral service was held Sept. 15 at First Church, Clinton. Wright & Ferguson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Carl Savell, 81, longtime Mississippi Baptist pastor and church planter, died Sept. 5. He was born in Catchings outside Delta City on July 30, 1937, the youngest of eight children born to Herbert Arlington Savell Sr. and Nettie Fleming Savell. He graduated from Anguilla High School in 1955. Following high school, Savell completed his bachelor degree at Mississippi College in Clinton in 1960 and then attended New Orleans Seminary where he received his master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees. Savell pastored 11 churches in Mississippi from 1957-2018, most notably Pelahatchie Church, Pelahatchie; Woodville Heights Church, Jackson; Highland Colony Church, Jackson; Westview Church, Jackson; and at the end of his career, Southern Hills Church, Byram. He also served as interfaith witness director for the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board) of the Southern Baptist Convention. Savell authored a book entitled, *My Life as Shaped by God*. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara "Bobbie" Savell; sons Tim Savell (Cindy) and Todd Savell (Susan); and four grandchildren. Savell was preceded in death by brothers Carmon Arlington Savell; Olen Wesley Savell; Vernon David Savell; William Hillen Savell; and sister Mary Louella "Sally" Savell Younger. He is survived by two brothers, Herbert Arlington Savell, Jr.; and Harold Augustus Savell. Funeral service was held Sept. 8 at Highland Colony Church in Ridgeland. A family graveside service was held in Rolling Fork. Chancellor Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



SAVELL

Irving Gene Walley, 91, of Richton, longtime Baptist pastor in Mississippi and Alabama, died Sept. 19. He was born in Richton on Dec. 31, 1926. He was a graduate of Richton High School, William Carey University in Hattiesburg, and also attended New Orleans Seminary. Walley was ordained into the Gospel ministry on Sept. 12, 1948, by First Church, Richton. He was pastor of several churches in Mississippi and Alabama, living in Alabama for over 50 years. The final 15 years of service in Alabama was as director of missions at Bethel Association in Linden. He retired and moved back to Richton and continued to pastor and do interim work. On his 90th birthday, he was serving as interim pastor of First Church, McLain. Walley was preceded in death by parents, Wesley George and Bessie Walley; son Tim Walley; three brothers; and one sister. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Virginia "Jenny" Walley of Richton; sons Dan Walley (Wanda) of Columbia, and Steve Walley (Dot) of Talladega, AL; daughter Jeannie Marshall (Joe) of Mobile, AL; brother, Bill Walley (Kris) of Modesto, Ca; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held Sept. 21 at First Church, Richton, with interment in Sunset Cemetery, Richton. Jones and Son Funeral Home in Richton was in charge of arrangements.



WALLEY

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MS POSITIONS

JERICHO BAPTIST CHURCH, A SMALL RURAL CHURCH, LOCATED IN UNION COUNTY, MS, IS SEARCHING FOR A FULL TIME PASTOR. Resumes may be mailed to Fredrick Owen, 1052 County Road 175, Guntown, MS 38849 or E-mailed to FCOwen@bellsouth.net.

HEUCKS RETREAT BAPTIST CHURCH, BROOKHAVEN, MS IS SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL MINISTER OF MUSIC. Persons interested may email resume to Corey Myers at cmyers913@gmail.com or mail to Heucks Retreat Baptist Church, 2167 Heucks Retreat Rd NE, Brookhaven, MS 39601, attn: Corey Myers. Position description available upon request. Deadline to apply is October 1, 2018.

PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH IN CARROLL COUNTY, MS IS LOOKING FOR A BI-VOCATIONAL OR FULL TIME PASTOR. Send resumes to P.O. Box 179, Carrollton, MS 38917 or email to providencebaptistchurchcarroll@gmail.com

DREW BAPTIST CHURCH IS SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR— Please email resume to drewbaptistchurch@gmail.com or U S mail to Drew Baptist Church, 139 S Church St., Drew, MS 38737.

THE LAUDERDALE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IS ACCEPTING RESUMES NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 12 FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS DIRECTOR. Ones interested may mail resume to P.O. Box 549, Marion, MS 39342.

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UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, MOSELLE, MS IS ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR A FULL TIME PASTOR. Please mail resumes to Unity Baptist Church, P.O. Box 156, Moselle, MS 39459. Or you may email them to ubc_resumes@yahoo.com. Either should be designated as Attention: Pastor Search Committee.

Persecution stirring in Burma

YANGON, Burma (BP and local reports) — Ethnic Wa rebels this month shut down several Baptist churches or destroyed their buildings and temporarily detained several clergymen in eastern Burma, also known as Myanmar, sources said.

On the border with China, soldiers of Myanmar's largest ethnic rebel group, the United Wa State Army, attacked the churches in the rebel's autonomous region in Shan state, according to Christian leaders. Burmese authorities are also struggling with increasingly brutal terrorism at the hands of Muslim extremists.

"We confirmed that at least 12 churches have been destroyed or closed as of Sept. 20," a Christian leader who has lived in the Wa region for several decades told Morning Star News.

The Wa people worship ancestral spirits, and the move by the Wa warriors was meant to hamper Christian missionary activity, said the leader on condition of anonymity.

Most of the targets were Baptist churches in Panghsang, where Wa soldiers destroyed crosses, the source said. The headquarters of the Wa military is located in Panghsang, on Burma's border with China.

A video showing Wa soldiers damaging a church building in Mong Maw town on Sept. 19 was widely circulated by Myanmar Facebook users. Local sources said schools built by Christian organizations in Panghsang town also have been shut down.

"Not only churches in Panghsang city were shut down, but churches in Mong Maw town were also destroyed," said Ah Kar, a local resident in Mong Maw town. "Some religious leaders were arrested, and some people who worship were briefly arrested, and they were head-shaved before release. Some of those who were head-shaved were women."

Local media reported that the Wa rebels attacked because the church buildings were built without their permission. The rebel

soldiers in the past week detained and questioned several Christian leaders in the Wa-controlled region, sources said.

U Nyi Rang, a spokesperson for the Wa rebels, described the rebels as controlled by extremist elements and said Wa officials are looking into whether the arrested religious leaders are allowed to carry out their activities in rebel-controlled territory, according to the Myanmar Times.

"I heard that some churches were demolished that had been built without the permission of the [Wa] central committee," U Nyi Rang told the Myanmar Times. "We are trying to control the instability in the region caused by extremist, unregistered religious leaders from outside."

Although most of the population in Wa territory worships spirits, there are also Buddhists as well as Christian communities such as Baptists and Roman Catholics. Many area members of ethnic minority groups, such as the Ahkar, Lahu and Kachin, as well as the Wa, are Christians, sources said.

"We live in hills and were isolated," said Tat Nyi Nat, a Christian who lives in Nang Pang in the Wa region, "but we got a chance to study and became educated persons because of the Christian missionaries. We were happy, but we are not happy for the future of our children."

Missionary activity among the Wa has long been carried out, but attacks have been growing steadily worse and some suspect Chinese authorities are behind them, a local Christian leader who is a long-time resident in the Wa region told Morning Star News.

Editor's note: Morning Star News is a California-based independent news service focusing on the persecution of Christians worldwide. Used by permission. Edited for style.

Submission Guidelines

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published.

Preferred method: news may be submitted electronically to the e-mail address below, and must be included in the message segment of an e-mail form. Secondary method: news may be typewritten or neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper and mailed. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone. Due to ever-present virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments in JPEG format are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs must be submitted electronically via e-mail, as attachments in JPEG format. **Hard copy photographs mailed through the postal service will not be accepted.** Photographs must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. Photographs containing inappropriate gestures and objectionable clothing will not be published. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items that do not reproduce well on newsprint are generally not publishable.

There is no guarantee that news items and/or photographs will be published, and unsolicited material will not be acknowledged or returned. All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date. Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. These guidelines are not meant to be exhaustive.

Submit news to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

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Truth is not relative.

Find it in the One who is the way, truth, and life.

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



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GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

SEPTEMBER 1-15

MEMORIALS

Mrs. Jahazel Buckley
Mr. Ted Buckley
Mr. James "Knotty" Cade
Mr. William Cade, Sr.
Mrs. Mary June Cooksey
Taylor Machine Works
Don & Janell Thames
Jared & Margaret Thames
Mr. & Mrs. Clark McNair
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick M. Abraham
Mrs. J. E. (Patty) Sullender
Mrs. Martha Ann May Klaus
Mr. William Delma Covington
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy L. Long
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Grubbs
Mr. William "Billy" Crowe
Ms. Tamara Mason Powell
Mr. Rick Ogwin Davis
Monte & Louise Ragland
Mr. William "Bill" Dent
Mrs. Ann Melton
Mr. Thiry Brown Fegan
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne R. Hall
Mrs. Billie Polk Flynt
Ms. June C. Sullivan
Mr. Joe W. Fortenberry
Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Garner
Mr. Larry Futral
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Dean
Mrs. Barbara Gibson Gilder
Mr. & Mrs. George Blalock
Mr. & Mrs. James Lee Barker
Mr. George Truett Hayman
Dorcas SSC, Whitesand BC
Dr. Dora Rose Herring
Ms. Linda Blair
Mr. Wilber Hillman
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Brents
Mr. Steve E. Janos
Ms. Cindy Janos
Mrs. Mary Jarrell
Mr. Lamont Jarrell

Dr. Ken Kirk
Mrs. Betty Crosby
Mr. Jimmy Lancaster
Ms. Patsy J. Zeidman
Mrs. Helen Gibson Leggett
Adult Class 5, Crossway Church
Mrs. Joyce Elizabeth Jackson
Lepetich
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Lindley
Mr. J.D. Loar
Maurice & JoAnn Ingram
Col. Tom Maxwell Sr.
Martha Whittington
Donna Carr
Linda Hill
Paula Caston
Mrs. Bobbie Rae Mills
Peanut & Regenia Davis
Mary Frances Ladner
Mr. Charles C. Morgan
Mr. & Mrs. Fred W. Spain
Mr. Ma'zene Mullen
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Peeples
Mr. & Mrs. J.V. (Mary) Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Michael W. Parker
Mrs. Cindy Brunt Peters
McCool BC
Mrs. Era Peters
Mrs. Virginia H. Atherton
Mr. Paul Powell
The Firm of Dixon Hughes
Goodman LLP
Mr. Allen Reagan
Mrs. Mary F. Sumrall Garner
Mr. Henry Breeland Roberts
Dorcas Class, Whitesand BC
Dr. Alex Shotts
Mr. & Mrs. Carles F. McComb
Mrs. Doyle Smith
Peanut & Regenia Davis
Mary F. Ladner
Mr. Harold Sumrall
Mrs. Mary F. Garner
Mrs. Janie Dale Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Joe D. Crowson
Mr. Bill Tolleson
McCool BC

Dr. Onous Wells Jr.
MS Bapt Convention Board
Family
Mr. Chris West
Dr. & Mrs. Maxwell C. Cooke

SEPTEMBER 16-30

HONORS

Mrs. Alice Grisham
Mrs. Glenna F. Pearson
Ms. Sylvia Keene
Mr. Marcus D. Keape

SEPTEMBER 16-30

MEMORIALS

Mrs. Shirley Alexander
Tinsley BC
Mr. Bryan Ashley
Trinity BC
Mr. Wayne Beasley
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mr. Craig Beech
Ms. Barbara B. Curlee
Mr. Aaron Belk
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dew
Miss Amanda Blakely
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Julia Breaux
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mrs. Margie Brewer
Mr. Earl Brewer
Mrs. Jo Anne Britt
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mrs. Martha Ann Brooke
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Mary Johnson Lipsey
Champion
Gleaner's SSC, Pocahontas BC
Mrs. Betty Ann Crawford
Ms. Mary McDaniel Rogers
Dr. Mart Chandler
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dew
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Mary June Cooksey
Explorers SSC, FBC Vicksburg
Vicksburg HHS Spec Ed Dept
Dexter Peterson
Mr. William Delma Covington
Pets & Jenny Markow
Mr. Curtis Cranford
Danny & Wanda Hamilton
Austin & Casey Hamilton
Denise Bond
Mr. Jimmy Doss
Mrs. Edwina M. Wise
Mr. Leon Ferguson
Ms. Barbara B. Curlee
Miss Regan Nicole Gagliardi
Eddiection BC
Mrs. Betty Ruth Gilland
Trinity BC
Mrs. "Bo" Hagwood
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Brents
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mr. Leguin Hamilton
Arlington BC
Geri Glynn Hastings
Mr. & Mrs. Billy G. Hastings
Mr. Lewis Hatcher
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Porter
Mrs. Brenda Gilcrease Herrin
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Albritton
Mr. Mark Holston
Mrs. Kathy Cook
Mr. Kenneth Mann
Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Gordon
Mr. Douglas Mayo
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dew
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Myrtle Crane McCary
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur E. Bishop
Drew McCleodon
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Porter
Mrs. Helen McCulley
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Huckaby
Mr. Ealom McGee
Mrs. Mary E. Sney and Family

Mr. Willis Meadows
Mr. & Mrs. Frank O. Crosthwait, Jr.
Mr. Roy F. Moore Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Gary W. Peitz
Mr. Charles Newman
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dew
Mr. James Newman
Class of 1960
Mrs. Gail Kirkland
Mrs. Sally Jim Oliver
Mrs. Nancy B. Morgan
Mrs. Eileen Pardue
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Smith
Mrs. Virginia "Ginger" Brown
Pepper
Mr. & Mrs. Frank O.

Crosthwait, Jr.
Mrs. Cindy Brunt Peters
Adult IV Ladies SSC, McCool BC
Mrs. Lois C. Pinkerton
Mr. Charles W. Holmes
Frances Welch Pratt
Mr. & Mrs. Glen E. King
Mr. Travis Pugh
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur E. Bishop
Mrs. Lucy Purvis
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Peeples
Mr. Ned Riddell
Ms. Barbara B. Curlee
Mr. Joe Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mrs. Lorraine Jackson Rouse
Arthur & Alicia (Powell)

Burnett
Mr. Emmett M. Skeen
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mr. O.C. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry W. Cuevas
Mrs. Ardis Florine Spivey
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Bruton
Mr. Travis Tadlock
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Bell
Mr. Scott Thornton
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mr. Bill Tolleson
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dew
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Ann Withers
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins



PARKWAY BAPTIST CHURCH, BILOXI, recently hosted Celeste Cade Hickman, BCV Public Relations Manager, as a guest speaker during their September mission emphasis. Dr. Argile Smith and Mrs. Helen Lyons presented Hickman with a monetary gift for The Baptist Children's Village.

BCV EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The BCV employs Christian, mission-minded, husband and wife teams, without dependent children or pets, to serve in the position of Houseparents. The couples must be mature Christian adults with personal integrity, character and of good reputation with standards and ethics expected of any member of The Baptist Children's Village staff.

They receive a salary with benefits and are provided a private bedroom and meals while on duty. The primary job responsibility of Houseparents is to maintain a home-like environment that models healthy, Christian family living for children and youth residents. They are the primary caregivers and help with everything from transportation and homework to laundry and meals when on duty.

Houseparent responsibilities are varied and somewhat dependent upon which campus and to which cottage the couple is assigned. However, all Houseparents need to be in good physical, mental and emotional health. They must be cooperative and comfortable working in a team environment.

To apply for the current Houseparent openings, please contact Tom Prather at tprather@bcvms.com or 601-952-2422.

A complete job description and application may be downloaded at www.baptistchildrensvillage.com.

True Fruit • Galatians 5:1-26

Freed (Galatians 5:13-15)

Paul reminded the Galatian believers that being freed from the law did not give them a license to sin but rather opened the door for them to fulfill the law through loving others. In Paul's day, some believed that since they were free in Christ, they could behave as they pleased. Peter also addressed this problem. He wrote, "Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil; but use it as bond-slaves of God" (1 Peter 2:16). Folks, we fight the same problem today. People believe that freedom in Christ gives them license to sin. Instead, we need to realize that salvation gives the believer the strength to avoid sin and the opportunity to genuinely love others.

Controlled (Galatians 5:16-18)

Paul challenged his readers to live under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. So, let's consider the Holy Spirit and His role in our lives. One Bible note includes the following: The Holy Spirit is "the third person of the Trinity, equal in essence to God the Father and God the Son. Jesus Christ and the apostles recognized the Holy Spirit as a person of the Godhead with various divine functions. Through the Holy Spirit, God is actively present in believers' lives."

The Holy Spirit was present when the world was created (Gen. 1:2). In

the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit rested upon people. In Judges 3:10 we read, "The Spirit of the Lord came upon him." He did so to give needed power and ability to a person chosen by God. Bezalel received artistic ability (Exodus 31:1-5). Jephthah received military prowess from the Holy Spirit (Judges 11:29). David was empowered by the Holy Spirit to rule the nation (1 Samuel 16:13). While the Holy Spirit was available to certain selected people in the Old Testament, Joel saw a day in the future where the Holy Spirit would be available to every believer (Joel 2:28-32).

We can also see the Holy Spirit at work in the New Testament. Luke referred to the Holy Spirit more than Matthew, Mark, and John. In the first chapter of his Gospel, Luke wrote of the Holy Spirit filling Elizabeth and empowering her to confirm the deity of the baby Mary was carrying. In Acts 2, Luke wrote about Pentecost. On that day the Holy Spirit came just as Joel had prophesied and Jesus had

promised. Instead of coming upon the people, the Holy Spirit filled them. The Holy Spirit was essential to the establishment of the early church. His work is also essential to Christians and the work of the church today.

The Holy Spirit has various roles. The Holy Spirit prays for us (Romans 8:26), enlightens God's Word (Romans 14:26), tells us we are loved (Romans 5:5) and points us to Christ (Ephesians 1:13-14). He is our Comforter (John

7:37), Helper (John 14:16), and the Giver of gifts (Romans 12:6-8). We are to worship in Spirit and truth (John 4:24) and are sealed by

the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30). We are filled with and gifted by the Holy Spirit at the moment we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We need the Holy Spirit to help us to do God's work effectively, lead Spirit-controlled lives, and have victory over sin. Believers must rely on the Holy Spirit daily to live a Christ-honoring life.

Abandoned (Galatians 5:19-21)

Paul identified actions taken by

the sinful person. He wrote, "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, and carousing..." (vv.19-21). He reminded his audience that people who habitually practice these actions would not be a part of God's kingdom. Sin leads to judgment and death.

Produced (Galatians 5:22-26)

Paul listed the actions that serve as evidence that a person is walking by the Spirit. Every time I think about the fruit of the Spirit, I think of my friend Deborah. She leads the fun songs during our annual Vacation Bible School. She has taught hundreds of kids (and adults like me) that the fruit of the Spirit is not a banana, watermelon, or lemon. Instead, the fruit includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Paul explained that these characteristics come only through following Christ. Believers should demonstrate a life characterized by fruit produced by godly character.

McGraw is a NAMB-endorsed chaplain at Louisiana State Penitentiary and member of Woodville Church, Woodville.



Explore the Bible
with Liz McGraw

Going Out • Acts 16:6-15

In August 2016, I was privileged to travel to Korea to be a part of a great event celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Far Eastern Broadcasting Company (FEBC), which shares the Gospel of Jesus with over a billion people in 149 languages by radio daily. Fourteen American pastors joined forty-four Korean pastors (60 total, one for each year of the FEBC), and baptized over 4,800 Korean soldiers who had been saved. I remember in my joy thinking, "This must be what Pentecost was like!"

Fellow Mississippian Rob Futral was with us, as well as Bill Patterson, former pastor in Rankin County, who is now an Associational Missions Director in Kentucky. Bill and his wife were missionaries to Korea in the 1980's, so I asked him how to ask the soldiers in Korean if they had accepted Christ. We pastors stood in the middle of a large swimming pool and the soldiers came in sixty at a time. I asked each one as he approached me, "Yay-su neem meets sim-nee-kah?" or "Have you received the Lord Jesus?" They each answered me, "Yay, Yay-su neem meets sim-nee-dah," or, "Yes, I have received the Lord Jesus." Then I baptized each one. What a day of rejoicing for all of us as we witnessed a great work of God.

We celebrated a great harvest for the Lord, though I led not one of them to Christ. I was simply honored to baptize some of them. The missionaries who were chaplains at the army base where the baptisms took place led them each individually to Christ over the previous year. These two men were called to go, and they did, both learning Korean and faithfully doing their work for the Lord, resulting in thousands saved each year. I thank the Lord that

I could see that work and be a tiny part of that harvest celebration. Acts 16:9 reads, "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia ...saying, 'Come over into Macedonia, and help us.' And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel unto them," (KJV). God calls some to go and start churches as Paul did. God

calls some believers to move to Korea, learn the language, and witness to the young soldiers there. And God calls all believers to share the Gospel where they live and work.

Right here in Mississippi, over one million people do not know the Lord Jesus personally. Many have heard of Him but do not know Him. Think of that. Over a million of our neighbors will die and go to hell without Christ if no one who knows Him shares Christ

Jesus with them. Acts 16:14-15 reads, "And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And ... she was baptized, and her household..." (KJV). Paul and his fellow workers shared the Gospel and a local woman was saved and became a church leader in nearby Philippi.



Bible Studies for Life
with Rick Henson

worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And ... she was baptized, and her household..." (KJV). Paul and his fellow workers shared the Gospel and a local woman was saved and became a church leader in nearby Philippi.

We need not necessarily travel the globe to be a missionary. We can share the Good News right here where we live. While we may not go to Korea or elsewhere to share the Gospel, we do need to go to the lost people to share Christ. When I was a younger man and witnessed to someone, each most surely would say, "I know I need to go to church." I would share that they need Jesus first, then the church. Today few people feel they "ought" to go church.

Therefore, we ought to go to them and share the Good News. As a summer missionary with the Home Mission Board in 1972, I worked in a campground ministry in another state. One large campground was close to a good size Baptist Church. I approached the pastor and asked if he would be willing to lead his church to get involved in witnessing to the people who camped there. I will never forget when he told me that those people had to drive right past his church to go camping. He said, "They know where we are. If that's not good enough, tough!" His answer was tough. Don't be like that pastor. Jesus said, "Go!"

Henson is a member of Meadow Grove Church, Brandon.



180 SECONDS — Micah Gilmore, children's minister at West Heights Church in Pontotoc, readies to share his three-minute testimony during the northeast Mississippi town's annual arts and crafts fair last year. (BP submitted photo)

Pontotoc volunteers: Just three minutes is all it takes

PONTOTOC, Miss. (BP and local reports) — Most Christians are willing to share their faith when it can be as simple as a three-minute testimony, a Mississippi church has found in using the three-minute story witnessing method.

"When you tell people, 'What we want you to do is share your testimony in three minutes, that means I don't have to sit down and carry on an hour conversation,'" said David Hamilton, senior pastor of West Heights Church in Pontotoc and a former two-term Mississippi Baptist Convention president.

The three-minute story often is used by churches and Christian organizations at events where witnessing is coupled with a prize giveaway to attract people.

Joseph Luby, West Heights Church's associate pastor of education, and a deacon at the church suggested West Heights Church use three-minute story witnessing at Pontotoc's annual arts and crafts fair, the Bodock Festival.

West Heights Church is sponsoring a booth at the October event for the second time this year. Church volunteers will invite people to listen to their story and then register to win a prize. Last year the church gave away a riding lawnmower.

As festival-goers walk by the booth, Hamilton explained, "We'll tell people, 'We want you to sign up to win this lawnmower.' We tell them it doesn't cost anything, but it does cost them three minutes of their time. Most folks in Pontotoc will give you three minutes."

At last year's two-day festival, 36 volunteers shared their stories with 850 people. Five played to receive Christ, the pastor said.

In another application of the method, a group of the church's youth in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes used the three-minute story, coupled with a \$100 gift card giveaway, to witness to their classmates. Luby reported three youths made professions of faith during the student-led initiative.

The three-minute story witnessing method has been used at numerous events large and small since Texas evangelist Ronnie Hill came up with the idea.

In the early 2000s, Hill went to the NASCAR race in Bristol, Tenn., where he was giving away a motorcycle "to get people to come into the tent and listen to me preach for 10 minutes." After the message, people would register for the motorcycle giveaway which was held after the race.

"We had over 700 saved over three days doing that," said Hill, a frequent speaker at Mississippi Baptist youth events, "but what I realized was we were missing a lot of people because they wouldn't want to wait around to hear me preach again and so I thought, I need more people to help me catch all these people because I'm doing it by myself so that's when I started taking people with me and training them how to share their testimony — the three-minute story — so we could catch people as they'd come by. That's how it grew at first."

"From there we went to Texas Motor Speedway and did it and then Sturgis," the annual motorcycle rally in Sturgis, S.D., where in 2006 Hill partnered with the Dakota Convention to establish what has become an annual outreach giving away a Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

This year's 10-day rally, Aug. 3-12, marked the 13th consecu-

tive for the ministry. Dakota Baptist state director of missions Buck Hill (no relation to Ronnie Hill) has participated since the beginning and now manages the ministry.

In a video on the sturgisbike-giveaway.com website, Buck Hill admits he wasn't enthusiastic when Jim Hamilton, then-executive director of the Dakota Baptist Convention, first shared his vision for a ministry at Sturgis 14 years ago. (Jim Hamilton is not related to Mississippi pastor David Hamilton.)

"The more and more God impressed upon me, and the more years I've done it, it is absolutely a need here... person after person comes to know Jesus Christ. We've even seen them being followed up for 12 or more years from the people that led them to Christ, and so I'm in it until Jesus comes back or until He takes me home."

This year, the website reports that 2,732 people were witnessed to and 227 made professions of faith.

Hill shared in an email that, for him, the three-minute story is effective because "it's my story, it's not somebody else's story. It is the simplicity of the Gospel of my life before Christ, and how I met Christ, and what my life is now with Christ, and I think that is why so many people are willing to listen to it. It's real, and while they may not agree with it, they do not deny that it's my story."

Learn more about how Southern Baptists undergird their missionaries through the Cooperative Program. Find stories, videos, images and more to share for the 2018 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering at imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering.

'Hot mess' leads to the removal of cross from Pensacola park

PENSACOLA, FL. (BP) — If a federal court had its way, the 34-foot cross would remain at its Pensacola, Fla., post, but "flawed precedent" the judges called a "hot mess" forced them to rule otherwise, those judges wrote in their opinion.

The judges said their hands were tied by the 1983 ruling in the nearly identical case of *ACLU v. Rabun County*, when the Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in Atlanta ordered a cross be removed from Black Rock Mountain State Park in Georgia.

"Given the parallels between the two cases — and crosses — we think it clear that Rabun... controls our analysis and requires that we affirm the district court's decision," the three-judge panel in the current Eleventh Circuit Court wrote in its Sept. 7 decision.

The Eleventh Circuit judges' ruling answers Pensacola's appeal of a 2017 lower court ruling in favor of atheists to remove the cross from Bayview Park. The plaintiffs first sued in 2016, contending the cross violates the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution, or separation of church and state.

Two of the three judges in the latest ruling, Charles Ashley Royal and Kevin Newsom, said the precedent itself should be revisited and reversed by the full Eleventh Circuit slate of judges.

"There is no injury, no harm, and no standing to support jurisdiction in this case, but there is an Eleventh Circuit rule that directs us to affirm the district court based on this flawed precedent," Royal wrote in his concurrence. "Rabun County needs to be reversed, and this Court needs to devise a practical standing analysis."

Both Royal and Newsom called the precedent and other legal jurisprudence in the Establishment Clause "a hot mess."

The statements come just as the U.S. Supreme Court has been asked to review an Establishment Clause case that struck down a 40-foot cross in Bladensburg, Md., namely the *American Humanist Association v. Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission*.

Pensacola will appeal yet again, its Becket Fund for Religious Liberty attorneys said. "The Constitution doesn't require the government to scrub every religious symbol from the public square," Becket Vice President and Senior Counsel Luke Goodrich said in a Sept. 7 press release.

"The Supreme Court has repeatedly said that the government can recognize religion as a fundamental part of our history and culture, and we're glad that the majority of the court agreed that the cross is constitutional."

Pensacola Mayor Ashton Howard said the cross is not only a religious symbol, but a World War II memorial that is "an important part" of the city's history and culture, comparable to 170 other displays in Pensacola parks.

"To tear down this symbol just because a few are offended by it shows hostility to religion, not neutrality," he said in Becket's press release. "The city looks forward to being vindicated on appeal — as the majority of the court said it should be."

Law allows the city 14 days to ask the Eleventh Circuit for a rehearing, and 90 days to ask the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case, *Kondrat'yev et al v. City of Pensacola*.



'HOT MESS' — If the federal court had its way, a 34-foot cross would remain at its Pensacola, Fla., post. But "flawed precedent" judges called a "hot mess" forced them to rule otherwise, the judges wrote in their opinion. (Becket Fund for Religious Liberty photo)